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U.S. CRIMES PILE UP



Vinh Quang Village Razed (photo); Haiphong, Nam Dinh and Hai Duong Cities and Other Populous Localities Indiscriminately Bombed



— The military base during the shelling.

L.A.F. attack against
Con Tien (Quang
Tri province) on
May 9, 1967

— Capt. Bill Lee and Col.
James Barrett in a desper-
ate state.



U.S. LOSSES HEAVIER AND HEAVIER

NORTH VIETNAM

IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1967

452 U.S. AIRCRAFT DOWNED

BETWEEN AUG. 5, 1964
AND JULY 6, 1967 **2,073** Planes Were
Downed

SOUTH VIETNAM

QUANG TRI — THUA THIEN

**3 U.S. Companies Wiped Out,
2 Others Badly Maulled, 40
G.I.s Captured.**

QUANG NGAI

**Go Hoi Airfield Attacked:
300 G.I.s Wiped Out, 30
Planes and Helicopters
Destroyed.**

VIETNAM PEOPLE'S ARTILLERY IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S. AGGRESSION, FOR NATIONAL SALVATION

by Brigadier-General TA XUAN THU

TODAY, the Artillery of the Vietnam People's Army is 21 years old. Its founding anniversary falls this year at a time when the armed forces and people in North Vietnam just reentered the second Winter-Spring victory, those in the North brought the number of U.S. aircraft down to over 2,000 and the artillerymen have just been awarded a Military Exploit Order, First Class, by the National Assembly, Government and President Ho Chi Minh for their glorious feats of arms on all battlefields.

In celebrating the birthday of our arm, we feel boundlessly proud when, looking back at the splendid path of progress of the Vietnam Artillery.

On June 29, 1946 when it was just born, our Artillery, though still in its infancy, joined the resistance war against French colonialism at the side of the entire people and army. Stooled in the crucible of the fighting, our Artillery starting from scratch and weakness, relied mainly on its own powers, captured guns from the enemy to arm itself and wipe out adverse forces, unceasingly grew up, won repeated victories and, together with the entire army and people, brought the sacred first resistance war to victory.

During the 1951-1954 years, of peaceful construction under the leadership of the Party, our Artillery continued its all-sided and rapid growth and became a regular and relatively modern. People's Artillery, playing its role as the main firepower of our army and making an active contribution to the defense of socialist North Vietnam.

Since the U.S. imperialists directly launched their war of aggression against our country — with their brass foot and steel shoulders — have together with the entire army and people been straining to the front and delivering thunder blows at the enemy on all battlefields.

The Artillery of North Vietnam is fighting in serious ranks with other arms and services of the Vietnam People's Army and people with the determination to defeat the U.S. aggressors' war of destruction. So far, more

than 50 enemy warships and commando boats have been sunk or set ashore by their accurate shelling of the Artillery of the Vietnam People's Army. Recently, the reckless U.S. aggressors violated the demilitarized zone by using long-range cannons, based south of it to wantonly fire at the northern bank of the Ben Hai demarcation river, destroying villages and massacring our compatriots. On the sacred order of the Fatherland, the North Vietnam Artillery immediately went into action, dealing well-deserved punitive blows at the enemy. More than 2,000 enemy troops, mostly Americans, were wiped out, more than 30 artillery pieces of various calibers, 105 military vehicles, 85 ammunition depots, 4 petrol dumps and one arsenal of the enemy at Doc Mieu, their positions at Doc Mieu and on Hill 341, etc., were destroyed. The U.S. aggressors want steel and iron, our Artillery's ammunition dump is inexhaustible. But what is more inexhaustible is the determination of our entire nation to safeguard the Fatherland, defend the North, liberate the South

and reunify the country. It is this determination which has instilled into us a miraculous strength to crush the aggressors on this heroic Vietnam land.

While the artillerymen in North Vietnam are day and night fighting together with the entire army and people against the U.S. war of destruction, the skillful and valiant artillerymen of the South Vietnam Liberation Armed Forces now are on the terms of the enemy. The Artillery in South Vietnam have recorded so many resounding victories. During recent years, seas of fire often flared up at night at base camps, airfields and storages of the U.S. puppets. In those places where the U.S. aggressors and puppets are stationed, there has been hardly a day without shelling from the L.A.F. Artillery. It is as if they were striking at the enemy continuously, everywhere and with such means that it was impossible for the U.S. to cope with "Viet Cong" Artillery's tactics.

During the recent Winter-Spring tremendous victories, the South Vietnam armed forces, the machine-gun

NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM ARTILLERY RECORD GREAT VICTORIES

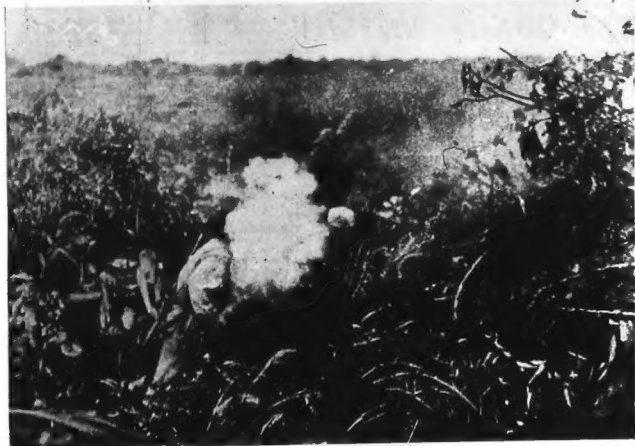
From Early 1960 to June 1967 (still incomplete figures)

NORTH VIETNAM PEOPLE'S ARTILLERY

- Set ashore and sank over 10 war vessels and commando boats.
- Fought back the enemy artillery south of the Ben Hai River.
- Wiped out 2,700 U.S. and puppet troops;
- Destroyed: 33 guns of various types, 105 military vehicles, 13 petrol, ammunition dumps, etc.

SOUTH VIETNAM L.A.F. ARTILLERY

- Fought 282 battles;
- Wiped out 28,450 U.S. and puppet troops;
- Destroyed: 2,664 aircraft of various types, 282 artillery pieces, 236 vehicles and many storages and other war means of the enemy.



With 27 Bullets Young Militia Women Down an A4-D

THURRAH for the woman militia platoon of Hoa Loc district who has downed one A4-D. These red ink letters on the whitewashed bamboo-plated stairwell and the brick-built new-board everywhere in the village told of the joy of the people here.

People have been seething with wrath looking at the bomb crater which dotted the village. The houses which collapsed and the coconut-trees which were torn away by U.S. bombs and bullets. The more they are angry with the aggressors, the prouder they are of their courageous woman militia platoon which has downed an enemy plane with a well-concentrated fire of 27 rifle shots, avenging for the enemy crimes committed in their village, district and country.

I have met the platoon at the social in its honor. They are all still young, most of them in their teens, merry as larks and fond of singing and dancing. Moi, the observer, has a crystalline voice. The first coarsie duong, the machine-gun leader, likes singing and beating time for others to sing;

With 27 Bullets Young Militia Women Down an A4-D



THE Summer rice harvest in the Vinh Linh area had been in. In a shelter, production team No 3 of K. village was distributing paddy to its members. By the light of a hurricane lamp, its leader was checking the distribution list while its secretary was weighing out grain.

In the dark, the co-op members could not see their leader's face but heard his young voice: "Father Roong, you've got your due share, haven't you?" "I have," the old man answered.

Some young women helped carry up Roong's rice while awaiting their turn.

After the distribution, I came back to the leader's house to spend the night. The small house were filled with the clatter of shells fired from U.S. navy units off the coast. Lying in a solid shelter, I saw the flashes of shells.

All of a sudden, the team's leader sat up, growling: "Their guns are aimed at our hamlet. Where on earth was father Roong put his rice? He is the only one in our hamlet that has not yet dug a shelter for paddy."

Taking advantage of an artillery lull, he crawled out of the shelter with an electric torch. Some time later, he came back, saying to me: "No damage. Tomorrow, we'll help the old fellow dig his shelter. No grain brought in must be destroyed by Johnson!"

WHEN the harvesting of Autumn rice and the preparations for Summer crop began, the Yanks also started a more intensive bombing of the area. When rice plants grew green, U.S. artillery lobbed shells over the demilitarized zone into Vinh Linh. Each co-op member's family in K. village had received six explosive bombs on the advance, all the fields had been churned up by bombs and shells. Under these hard conditions, the co-ops had sown

BUMPER CROP IN HEROIC VINH LINH

rice in straight rows, each hectare had received over 7 tons of fertilizer.

WHEN harvest time came, the people in Vinh Linh felt that they had to wage a fierce battle for each grain of rice.

After many a meeting, the Party organizations decided to divide the rice-fields into



portions and array harvesters in battle line. There were plenty of trenches and shelters.

One day, as I was cycling on the road to the co-op, I was called by a militia woman from a trench: "Get down from your bike, and find a shelter. Don't break our anti-air raid traffic regulations."

I wondered whether it was possible to ride in a trench. I complied with the order and found that this trench was one of the numerous ones recently dug to serve as roads for harvesters. I stopped now and then to make room for rice carrying people and wheel barrows. These communication trenches were dubbed "Dien' Bien Phu trenches."

T. village had false "mobile shelters." Like troops attacking a post, each team of harvesters brought to the ricefields A-shaped shelter frames; these were covered with sheets for rain and which made them bomb-and-shell-splinter proof.

When Vinh Linh started harvesting, the American aggressors launched against it the most violent attacks in the past few years. Its trenches and shelters proved very effective.

Once, enemy artillery fired over one hundred shells on a team of harvesters of T. village. Except the destruction of some rice, no casualty was recorded.

In G. village, harvest time began with five thousand

paddy. A threshing floor was divided into two surrounded by trenches and underground shelters. Each team house had a shelter for the distribution of rice which had room enough for fifteen people. As a result, co-operative C. suffered no casualty during harvest time.

In the first seven days of the season, the co-operative of G. village received 10,000 shells; the whole T. hamlet reeked with powder. However, its woman assistant-manager, Luyen, and her co-op will distribute grain as usual. After all, it isn't so risky as we thought."

S. village was savagely bombed, its hamlet N. lost all its houses. The manager of its co-op, I have experienced calmly: "We are still in a position to distribute grain."

THE enemy is unleashing a ferocious war of destruction on Vinh Linh, but the region has won the Summer rice battle and has prepared its funds for the Autumn rice. Co-op members are engaging a new combat, on the countryside front.

In a corner of the paddy storehouse of East hamlet in R. village, production team leader Nguyen The Quy said to the members of his team: "When carrying rice leaves, the yard loads securely to the ends of your pole. They can protect your head against bomb splinters, especially when you lie on the ground. I have experienced the effectiveness of this method; I have been saved by two sheaves of rice when harvesting at Cay Bai. My sheaves were hit by three shell splinters. Johnson just wasted his ammunition." Quy, and his team mates burst out laughing.

The members of co-operative C. were of this opinion when discussing the new tactics of the American aggressors. Their village was bombed and strafed day and night. They talked hard about their houses. A house of production team No 1 which had been blasted by a bomb was immediately repaired to store

U.S. aircraft and artillery rained in Vinh Linh 100 bombs and shells per hectare. During the recent Winter-Spring crop, Vinh Giang and Vinh Son villages received in 3 days 1,100 bombs and 20,000 shells.

To date, the armed forces and people of Vinh Linh have downed more than 100 aircraft (8 were shot down on Nov. 11 alone). However in the recent Winter-Spring crop (the 6th crop since U.S. aggression), Vinh Linh has harvested 160,000 piculs of paddy more than the corresponding crop of the previous year.

THE east area in Northern Quang Tri which stretches along Strategic Highway 9, after two victorious dry seasons of 1965 and 1967, has become familiar to the entire nation. Many inland names of mountains, rivers, hills and streams have made their entry into the topics of the day. Many patches of land, heretofore nameless, suddenly take new names coined after victorious battles. "Hill Ten Gallant Fishers" falls into this category.

It lies on a flat valley wall which runs parallel with the La Lo stream. On its northern side is named Cu Dinh. On Feb. 25, 1967, at this spot, a fierce battle took place between two unequal forces. On the one side, only 10 Liberation fighters armed with only 5 sub-machineguns and a rifle, plus a pair of grenades for each combatant. On the other side, a reinforced U.S. marine company of over 200 were adequately equipped with modern weapons: individual combat-firing light machineguns, grenade launchers, etc., supported by artillery and aircraft and supplied by helicopter. The fighting broke out at 3 a.m. and continued until midnight, with the result that the U.S. marine company had to beat its retreat, leaving behind many dead, after having suffered at killed and many wounded. The Liberation fighters used a large quantity of military material and equipment, including operational maps and compasses. From then on this "Hill Without a Name" has been known as "Hill Ten Gallant Fishers". It was this name like a Medal of Honour. The South Vietnam L.A.F. Command conferred a Liberation Military Order, First Class, on this L.A.F. squad. All its ten members received such a Liberation Medal.

Following is a brief account of the battle:

NIGHT wore on. The enemy artillery kept shelling, probing fire into the darkness. Many shells landed in the position of the Liberation fighters, but no casualty was registered.

Those who were not on sleep, unafraid. Da had ordered every shell to be constructed up to "L.A.F. standard", with enough space to hang a hammock and with a bit of canvas on top as cover against rain. Every shelter was tunnelled into the fortification wall.

It was bad daylight now. The combatants tied up their hammock and sleeping mats, and cut spare lead camouflage. Old hands assisted new recruits in keeping their hands in.

The sun began beating down into the valley. The enemy artillery suddenly stopped. A white smoke emerged from a scrub in the battle area. Tia called Hang

IN QUANG TRI ON "HILL WITHOUT A NAME"

in a whisper. They both kept a lead eye on it and soon made out that it was an enemy. Hang signed Da forward. It was an enemy, no mistake! While he put his finger on the trigger, a question came into his mind: "Is it the right time?" Strict observance of secrecy and skillful concealment and camouflage made the Yanks completely unaware of what was going on. They were now within range but still cautiously tried to maintain contact. A burst of sub-machinegun fire was heard. The Tommy-gun in Da's hands shook angrily, spitting its fire at the enemy troops then bunching together. They yelled and shouted and

rushed forward. Kinh kept them down with his sub-machinegun. The two grenades hurled by Tam and Lien exploded right in the enemy formation. As the fortifications held by Tam and Lien protruded forward, they were now the nearest to the enemy. Hang and Tia opened fire at the opponent's flanks in time, in co-ordination with Tam and Lien. The enemy did not longer press forward. Light American corpses littered the ground in front of the work, 3 of them not more than 10 metres from those held by Tam and Lien. This first stunning blow swiftly drove the enemy into the defensive.

Wounded G.I.'s groaned and wept. Those still un-

scathed moved out, trying to drag them behind the fire-line. The aggressor troops kept shouting, screaming and weeping, and there was no end of a din. Shot by shot, the Liberation fighters fired their rifles and sub-machineguns, cutting down enemy soldiers one by one. Many attempts were made to remove the dead and wounded but without success.

The Americans swept the L.A.F. position with the fire of their heavy machineguns from two directions, but their bullets only flew over the line of the Liberation fighters. From the rear, the enemy artillery unleashed barrage after barrage, and shell explosions shook the whole battle area. Three he-

licopters took turns to spray 20-mm cannon shells over the L.A.F. position but none of them hit its works. The enemy still failed to locate accurately the adverse fortifications on the ingenious camouflage of the Liberation fighters continued to defy detection. The invaders kept cutting their way into the L.A.F. perimeter. The surprise factor was still available. The Liberation fighters remained still, waiting. The advancing G.I.'s thought that their opponents were not to be found immediately. In fact the latter were under their very nose.

In their fortifications, the Liberation fighters were ready to let loose their guns and grenades.

Sub-machineguns released 3-shot bursts and rifles were fired shot by shot. The natives fell accurately on the

(Continued page 7)

HEAVY LOSSES OF THE U.S. IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE

QUANG TRI

3 U.S. Companies Wiped Out and 2 Others Badly Maused.

G.P.X. reported that on July 6, north of Highway 6, Quang Tri province, the L.A.F. violently attacked the U.S. marines and won a resounding victory.

On the morning, supported by planes and artillery, a company of U.S. marines of Regiment 9 which moved from Con Tien to Gio Xo, 7 km west of Gio Linh, intercepted by the L.A.F. was virtually wiped out. Meanwhile the L.A.F. encouraged the enemy posts at Con Tien and Gio Linh, silencing the enemy artillery which could not rescue their battered troops at Gio An.

After that heavy blow, the Yankees sent a company of Battalion 1, Regiment 9, and some units of U.S. marines which marched to Gio An in 4 columns under the cover of tanks and planes.

At 1:30 p.m. the L.A.F. attack began. The aggressor artillery, the heavy mortar and the enemy in many parts and engaged him in a hand-to-hand fight. They destroyed tanks and routed the others, shot down a helicopter and killed many soldiers.

The battle was fierce.

Enemy corpses littered the ground. The survivors fled, better-shelter, hotly pursued by the L.A.F. who captured 40 Yankees.

In order to conceal their losses, the U.S. commanders sent in airplanes and savagely bombed the Yankees captured by the L.A.F.

According to preliminary reports, in the two battles on July 2, the L.A.F. beat 2 companies of Battalion 1, U.S. marines Regiment 9, badly mauling 2 other companies of U.S. troops, destroyed 3 tanks, downed 1 helicopter, damaged many others and seized a big haul of weapons and military equipment.

THUA THIEN

An Enemy Convoy Intercepted on Hai Van Pass: 38 Vehicles Destroyed, 2 Companies Wiped Out.

On July 3, 1967, the L.A.F. in Thua Thien ambushed an enemy convoy of over 200 vehicles north of Hai Van pass, causing big losses to the enemy. U.S. planes and puppet troops had to be dispatched to rescue the convoy which was assailed by a thick hail of mortar shells and machine-gun bullets of the L.A.F.

According to preliminary figures released by the enemy,

35 vehicles had been destroyed or heavily damaged, and a company of troops annihilated. The survivors fled to Da Nang.

An Enemy Column Attacked at Phu Vang: 300 Enemy Soldiers Wiped Out and 5 M113s Burnt, 8 Bridges and Culverts on Highway 1 by Guerrillas on Highway 1.

On June 25, the L.A.F. at Thua Thien violently intercepted 4 U.S. and puppet battalions and a mounted squadron raiding the villages of Phu Luog, Phu An, Phu Lo, Phu Gio, Vinh Phu and Vinh Lai (Phu Vang district), killing over 300 enemies, burning 5 M113s and seizing 40 firearms of various kinds.

On the night of June 12 and 14, the Phu Loc guerrillas destroyed 5 bridges and culverts on Highway 1 including a 25-metre bridge at Nuoc Ngot.

QUANG NGAI

Attack on Gio Ho Ai Field: 300 Yankees Wiped Out, 30 Aircraft and 8 M108s and 203mm Cannons Destroyed.

On the night of June 23, the L.A.F. at Quang Ngai heavily shelled Gio Ho Ai field and the U.S. operational bases composed of 3 airfields containing about

300 helicopters and transport planes and defended by an U.S. artillery battalion with 16 105mm and 203mm cannons.

First reports disclosed that since the very beginning all important targets were accurately hit: the airfield was set afire, 300 Yankees were killed, 30 aircraft, 6 cannons, 2 203mm guns, 1 57mm recoilless gun and 1 tank were destroyed and 30 barracks and an ammunition dump burnt and destroyed.

On June 24, to cover up their heavy damage, the Yankees prevented our patriots from passing through the region and carried the dead and wounded in 40 helicopter trips.

THU DAU MOT

Dau Tieng U.S. Base Bombed: 40 Planes Destroyed or Damaged, Hundreds of G.I.'s Put out of Action.

On the night of June 24, the L.A.F. and people of the Dau Mot province conducted violent attack against the U.S. base in Dau Tieng. G.P.X. reported. The L.A.F. artillery scored direct hits at the airbase, artillery grounds, network of posts and stores causing heavy damage to the enemy: 40 planes of various types were destroyed or damaged, 6 posts and several houses burnt down, one ammunition dump

blasted and hundreds of enemy troops were killed or wounded. The enemy artillery grounds and airfield were brought to a complete standstill. Roads leading to the airfield were banned for the picking up of the corpses and many big helicopters were sent to carry away scores of damaged planes and artillery pieces during the two following days.

PLEIKU

On one night over 600 enemy troops including nearly 800 Yankees Wiped Out, 2,000 Military Vehicles and 2,000 Metric Tonnes of Ammunition Destroyed.

On the night of June 9, and early morning of June 10, 1967, the L.A.F. in Dy'ra violently attacked the base of U.S. Infantry Division 4 in Pleiku province, causing big losses to G.P.X. reports.

In six spearheads the L.A.F. stormed the enemy's mortar and mortar positions, bomb and ammunition stores, stationing base of the sentries on Hill 37, "pacification cadres" training camp on Hill 30 and the living quarters of U.S. military police.

The L.A.F. destroyed 210 military vehicles most of them M113s, set ablaze 2,000 litres of petrol and blasted

(Continued page 6)